

REMARKS

The remarks are supplemental to those made in the response to final office action dated December 2, 2010 and are responsive to the points raised in the advisory action. These changes were discussed with the Examiner, were agreed to be acceptable to the Examiner and were summarized in the Interview Summary of February 24, 2011.

1. "acycloxy" is unclear. Applicants have changed this to "acyloxy". Support may be found on page 8 of the above application.
2. "optionally substituted by" text may be found on page 8 of the above application.
3. Applicants amended the claims to limit the spectroscopic probe to a fluorophore or chromophore. Support may be found on page 14 of the above application.
4. "partial amino acid sequence of the HIV-tat protein" has been substituted by "a peptide having an RKKRRQRRR (SEQ ID NO:1) amino acid sequence". Support for this can be found on page 15 of the above application.
5. Support for the phrase "a donor or an acceptor of a FRET pair" may be found on page 16 of the above application. However, as discussed, Applicants have amended claim 11 to read "wherein L₁ and L₂ constitute a FRET pair". Support for this version may also be found on page 16 of the application.
6. "Guanidinium" has been changed to "guanidine" at the request of the Examiner
7. With respect to the source of AGT in claims 44-47, the claims are here amended to replace "AGT" with the more specific

phrase "mutant of a human AGT". Support for this change can be found on page 20, mid-2nd paragraph.

8. The term "active ester" in claim 1 has been replaced by "activated carboxyl group". Support for this can be found on page 16 (4 lines from bottom of 2nd paragraph).
9. A declaration stating that NC is not chromogenic using IR spectroscopy is attached herewith.

Applicants have added a sequence identifier for the sequence RKKRRQRRR, and submit herewith a sequence listing, which had heretofore been inadvertently omitted. Please enter this sequence listing into the specification.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that this case is in condition for immediate allowance. Early and favorable consideration leading to prompt issuance of this Application is earnestly solicited.

Applicants submitted a notice of appeal and petition for a three-month extension of time with a response to final office action on December 2, 2011 and authorized that \$825 be charged to Deposit Account No. 14-0740. Applicants do not believe further fees are due. However, please charge any deficiencies to the same Account.

Respectfully submitted,

NEW ENGLAND BIOLABS, INC.

Date: February 25, 2011

Customer No.: 28986

/Harriet M. Strimpel/
Harriet M. Strimpel, D.Phil.
(Reg. No.: 37,008)
Attorney for Applicant
240 Country Road
Ipswich, Massachusetts 01938
(978) 380-7373